

Application No.: 10/008553

Docket No.: MWS-009RCE

REMARKS

In the forgoing claim amendments, claims 5, 9, 17, 19 and 22 have been amended. In order to expedite prosecution, Applicants have cancelled claims 1-4, 8, 11-16, 18, 20-21 and 23-47. Applicants reserve the right to pursue these or similarly scoped claims in future applications.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §112

The Examiner indicated that claims 5-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C §112 but were otherwise allowable. Applicants have amended claim 5 to address the antecedent basis issue noted by the Examiner. As Applicants deleted the "programmatically merging" step noted by the Examiner prior to the final rejection, Applicants believe claims 5-7 to now be in condition for allowance.

Allowed Claims

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 9-10 were allowed. Applicants have amended claim 9 to correct a typographical error and believe the claims to still be allowable.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner objected to claims 17, 19 and 22 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but indicated the claims were allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In the Advisory Action, the Examiner objected to the omission of the merging step from claims 17, 19 and 22. Applicants have amended the claims to include the merging step and accordingly believe claims 17, 19 and 22 to now be in condition for allowance.

Telephone Interview

Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesy of the telephone interview on April 20, 2006. Applicants and the Examiner discussed antecedent basis issues affecting claims 5, 17, 19

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and 22. Applicants believe those claims have now been amended to address the Examiner's concerns and are in condition for allowance.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the above, each of the remaining claims 5-7, 9-10, 17, 19 and 22 is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Dated: April 20, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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